

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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SUBJECT: EXCHANGES - 1975/76 LECTURER NOMINATIONS

1. DEPT POUCHING TODAY FOR EMBASSY REVIEW AND COMMENTS APPLICATIONS US LECTURERS NOMINATED FOR AY 75/76.

2. FOR PRAGUE POSITION, CIES NOMINATING MICHAEL BEGNAL, 1973/74 GRANTEE.

3. FOR BRATISLAVA POSITION NOMINEES ARE JOHN LIHANI, PROFESSOR OF HISPANIC LINGUISTICS (ALSO TEFL SPECIALIST), U OF KENTUCKY, AND JAMES T. CRITZ, PH.D. CANDIDATE U OF WASHINGTON. LIHANI FLUENT CZECH AND SLOVAK; CRITZ HAS GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF BOTH. ALL NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO BFS FOR ITS CONSIDERATION (BEGNAL AS EXCEPTION TO BFS POLICY STATEMENT GOVERNING RECEIPT OF 2ND GRANTS). EMBASSY WILL BE ADVISED WHEN ADMINISTRATIVE CLEARANCES RECEIVED.

4. JAMES CALLAS HAS INFORMED DEPT AND CIES THAT HE WISHES REMAIN 2ND YEAR IN BRATISLAVA. DEPT AND CIES AMENABLE TO EXTENSION HIS GRANT CONTINGENT ON EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPROVAL SSR MINED AND KOMENSKY UNIVERSITY. IF CALLAS EX-

TENSION APPROVED, CRITZ AND LIHANI WOULD NOT BE NOMINATED FOR EXISTING BRATISLAVA POSITION.

5. POSSIBLE COMPLICATING FACTOR FOR CRITZ, IN EVENT HE IS CONSIDERED, IS THAT HIS WIFE IS CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZEN RESIDING IN PRAGUE.

6. DEPT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHMENT OF 3RD US LECTURER POSITION AT PRAGUE, BRATISLAVA, OR OTHER UNIVERSITY. ASSUMING CALLAS EXTENDS WE WOULD HAVE POSSIBILITY FOR PLACING LIHANI, KRITZ OR 3RD NOMINEE (IN AMERICAN HISTORY) NOW BEING PROCESSED HERE. WE RECOGNIZE THAT CURRENT STATE OF US-CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS MAY ADVISE AGAINST OUR MAKING PROPOSAL TO EXPAND LECTURER PROGRAM AT THIS TIME AND WE MAY EVEN HAVE DIFFICULTY IN MAINTAINING CURRENT LEVEL OF EXCHANGE WITHOUT PROVIDING SOME RECIPROCITY TO CZECHS AND SLOVAKS. WHEN DISCUSSING NOMINATIONS FOR AY 75/76, SHOULD QUESTION OF RECIPROCAL GRANTS FOR CZECH OR SLOVAK LECTURERS BE RAISED, EMBASSY SHOULD OFFER TO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITIES IN US. IF CZECHOSLOVAKS NOMINATE COMPETENT SCHOLAR THIS WOULD IMPROVE PROSPECTS FOR PLACEMENT HERE, ALTHOUGH DEPT MAY HAVE TO SUPPLEMENT STIPEND PROVIDED BY US HOST UNIVERSITY. IN DISCUSSION, EMBASSY SHOULD BEAR IN MIND DEPT'S INTEREST IN 3RD US LECTURER, PREFERABLY WITHOUT, BUT ALSO WITH RECIPROCITY IF NECESSARY. TO MAKE PROPOSAL MORE ACCEPTABLE WE WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF 3RD US LECTURER IN FIELD OF INTEREST TO THE CZECHS OR SLOVAKS, EVEN OUTSIDE FIELD OF AMERICAN STUDIES, BUT PREFERABLY IN HUMANITIES OR SOCIAL SCIENCES. ADVISE. KISSINGER

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